coal, Short-Term Linkage Committees determine the quantity of coal to be supplied quarterly to core-sectors like power and cement based on the recommendations of the competent sponsoring authorities. Coal India Ltd. and Singareni Collieries Company Limited allocate coal to other consumers based on the recommendations of competent sponsoring authorities. Coal India Limited also release coal on free-sale basis to all consumers; including those without sponsorship, from certain specified mines placed under 'Liberalised Sale Scheme', at the rate of not more than 1000 tonnes at a time, on 'first come first serve' basis.

(b) and (c) Coal Distribution Policy requires periodical reviews to adjust to changing patterns of demand and supply in order to maximise consumer satisfaction. Such reviews are conducted as and when necessary and it may not be possible to indicate the changes likely to be effected on the basis of such reviews.

Joint production of MIG-29/T-72 M1 Tanks with Russia

1228. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Russia has offered to produce jointly with India MIG-29 aircraft and T-72 M1 tanks; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indigenously Built submarines

1229. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the country has started building submarines indigenously ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) the number of such submariner built in the country so far ;

(d) whether the country has achieved self sufficiency in submarine building ; and

(e) if not, what action Government propose to take to make the country self sufficient in submarines ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR) : (a) to (c) Mazagon Dock Limited, Bombay, are building submarines in technical collaboration with M/s HDW, Germany. One submarine has been delivered to the Indian Navy in Feb., 1992. One more submarine is being launched in March 1992 for pre delivery trails.

(d) and (e) The country has acquired capability to build submarines with material packages obtained from various sources including ex-import depending on the design of the submarines.

Purchasing of Defence Equipments by Foreign Countries

1230. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of countries have shown their interest in purchasing defence equipments from India ;